

SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE LIAISON PROBLEMS

CONFIDENTIAL

9 January 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, CIA Career Service Board

SUBJECT : Special Legislative Liaison Problems in the Proposed
Career Service Legislation

1. In connection with proposed medical benefits there appears to be no legislative liaison problem.

2. In connection with proposed death gratuities there appears to be no special legislative liaison problem.

3. In connection with proposed educational allowances, in view of the fact that over-all Government legislation to solve this problem has been considered for some period of time, it would appear doubtful whether the Bureau of the Budget would permit CIA to seek its own legislation in this field. In view of the large number of children of Government employees overseas who have not received these benefits in the absence of general legislation, it is thought that such a proposal if submitted to the Congress might face rough sledding.

4. In connection with proposed legislation for liberalized retirement it is felt that the Bureau of the Budget would not approve separate CIA legislation until the Government has adopted an over-all position following submission of the report of the committee on retirement policy for Federal personnel headed by Mr. H. Eliot Kaplan. This committee report is due in the near future, and I believe that it is acquainted with our peculiar problem. As the Congress has an interest in this report it is doubtful whether they would consider any specialized provision for CIA in this field until study of the Kaplan Committee's recommendations has been completed.

5. In connection with the proposed exemption of CIA from the provisions of the Performance Rating Act of 1950, it is my understanding that a general study is in progress looking to the possible revamping of the entire performance rating program for the Government. This being the case, the Bureau of the Budget may feel that it would not be appropriate at this time to seek an exemption from the provisions of the Act. However, insofar as the Congress is concerned, there appear to be no reasons why CIA should not be exempted, and it is my belief that the climate would be quite favorable for this proposal.


6. In connection with proposals for liberalized home leave it is felt that there would be no legislative liaison problems in this connection.

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7. In connection with proposed legislation concerned with missing persons, the present Missing Persons Act expires on 1 February 1954. A bill which will place Missing Persons legislation on a permanent basis, rather than on a basis of period extensions, was forwarded several months ago by the Department of Defense to the Bureau of the Budget which has so far declined to approve it. Regardless of executive action, the House Armed Services Committee proposes to commence hearings on some form of MIA legislation on 12 January, in view of the political pressures which would accrue should the present extension expire without replacement legislation on 1 February. The present thinking is that the House will recommend a further extension of present legislation to 1 July 1955. However, the present temporary extension was opposed in the Senate on the basis of the requirement for permanent legislation, and it is believed that this opposition may become more vocal with the request for a renewed extension. In view of these facts it is believed that CIA will be covered on Missing Persons legislation either by a temporary extension or by the permanent legislation proposed by the Department of Defense. If, however, it appears that permanent legislation is not to be enacted, then CIA should indicate to the Bureau of the Budget its concern with this problem, and request either the authority to seek permanent MIA legislation of its own or urge the Bureau to release the current proposals before it. In either event, it is not believed that the problem is one which should be met at this time by a CIA proposal for MIA legislation of its own.

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In this connection, Mr. Pforzheimer advises this date (3 September 1954) that the recent Congress extended MIA legislation until 1 July, 1955, and that study on permanent legislation is still being conducted.



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